

**Intervention by the Philippines
Arms Trade Treaty Working Group Meetings
April 26-29, 2022**

Mr. Facilitator, we first wish to thank you for your excellent work as facilitator of this group.

We also would like to thank everyone for welcoming the Philippines as a state party to this Treaty.

With this statement, we would like to note some of Philippine's ongoing efforts in the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty.

On March 24 of this year, the Philippines ratified the Treaty, and it will come into force for us on June 22, 2022.

Our preparations for its implementation started in November 13, 2015, when our legislature approved the Strategic Trade Management Act, which forms the basis of the Philippines' national control system. It is supported by the Comprehensive Firearms Act (2013) and the Customs Management and Tariff Act (2015).

The ATT assessment criteria under Articles 6 and 7.1 is already embedded in our domestic law and its implementing rules and regulations. As a result, if there is a substantial risk of any of the negative consequences listed in Article 7.1 and Article 7.4, the Strategic Trade Management Office or the Philippine National Police - Firearms and Explosives Office, which are both responsible for the issuance of export and import permits for conventional weapons, are required to deny the permit application.

We view our recent ratification of the ATT as an opportunity to further enhance our trade controls and therefore chose to apply the ATT criteria not only to proposed exports, imports, brokering, transit or transshipment of ATT items but also to all dual-use items.

Further, we welcome the collaborative approach in the development of the Voluntary Guide to implementing Articles 6 & 7 of the Treaty, which will help the Philippines in its implementation as well.

Mr. Facilitator,

With this information, we would like to assure you and the Presidency of our full support throughout this meeting and in your efforts leading up to the Eighth Conference of the States Parties. Thank you.